

CLAIMS:

1. An electric heating structure for a domestic appliance including:
 - at least one first electric heating track (23) having a positive temperature coefficient;
 - at least one additional electric heating track (27, 28);
 - 5 - a control structure (22, 25, 29) for controlling electric power supply to said first and additional heating tracks (23, 27, 28), sensitive to the heating of said at least one first heating track (23) and for switching-on said at least one additional electric heating track (27, 28) in parallel and in addition to said at least one first heating track (23) when said at least one first heating track (23) has been heated to at least a predetermined extent.
- 10 2. A heating structure according to claim 1, wherein said control structure (22, 25, 29) is sensitive to temperature of said at least one first heating track (23) for carrying out said switching-on of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) in response to at least a sensed temperature above a predetermined temperature.
- 15 3. A heating structure according to claim 2, wherein said control structure (22, 25, 29) includes a bimetallic temperature switch (29) sensitive to temperature of said at least one first heating track (23).
- 20 4. A heating structure according to claim 2, wherein said control structure (22, 25, 29) includes a negative temperature coefficient resistance (29), sensitive to temperature of said at least one first heating track (23).
- 25 5. A heating structure according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said control structure (22, 25, 29) includes a sensing unit (29) sensitive to electric current through said at least one first heating track (23) and is adapted for carrying out said switching-on of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) in response to at least current through said at least one first heating track (23) being below a predetermined current.

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6. A heating structure according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said control structure (22, 25, 29) includes a timer (29) and is adapted for carrying out said switching-on of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) in response to at least expiration of a predetermined duration of time after switching-on said at least one first heating track (23).

7. A heating structure according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least one first and additional heating tracks (23, 27, 28) are thermally connected to each other such that, in operation, said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) is heated by
10 said at least one first heating track (23) to at least some extent, and wherein the combined electric resistance of said at least one first heating track (23) in condition for switching-on said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) and of at least said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) at room temperature is smaller than the electric resistance of said at least one first heating track (23) at room temperature.

15 8. A heating structure according to claim 7, wherein, in operation, the combined electric resistance of said heating tracks (23, 27, 28) when in condition for switch-on of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) is equal to or larger than the electric resistance of said at least one first heating track (23) at room temperature.

20 9. A heating structure according to any one of the claims 1-6, wherein the combined electric resistance of said at least one first heating track (23) in condition for switching-on of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) and of said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) at room temperature is equal to or larger than the electric
25 resistance of said at least one first heating track (23) at room temperature.

10. A heating structure according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least one first heating track (23) is arranged for heating a medium and wherein said at least one additional heating track (27, 28) is arranged for heating the same medium.

30 11. A domestic appliance for heating an object or a medium, such as a pressing iron, a frying pan, a water kettle, a rice cooker, a grill, a hair dryer including at least one heating structure according to any one of the preceding claims arranged for temperature exchange with the medium or object to be heated.